United Nations E/C.2/1999/2/Add.20

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 September 1999
English
Original: English/French

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations
Resumed 1999 session
Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Quadrennial reports, 1994-1997 or 1995-1998, submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

Contents

		Page
1.	African Association of Education for Development	2
2.	Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements	3
3.	Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace	6
4.	Women's World Summit Foundation	8
5.	World Coal Institute	11
6.	World Young Women's Christian Association	13

99-30606 (E) 131199 261199

1. African Association of Education for Development (AFASED)

Since 1995, AFASED has continued and diversified its activities which have taken place in Togo, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Gabon, in the following areas: culture and communication; population, education, training, youth, and women; economy and sustainable development.

Publication of the journal *Famille et développement*

Issue No. 69 of *Famille et développement* came out in 1995. However, when subsidies from the international partners were suspended, publication of the journal temporarily ceased. It will resume when the financial situation improves.

Recent activities

Population

In September 1994, AFASED participated in the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo.

Issue No. 69 of *Famille et développement*, published with financial assistance from UNFPA-Togo, was devoted to the conclusions of the Conference.

AFASED is a member of the Population Planning Unit (UPP) set up by Togo at the level of the planning ministry for follow-up to the Conference.

In 1995, AFASED participated in the international seminar on population planning organized in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, by USAID.

Youth and Education

AFASED is a member of the Coordination Office of the "Youth Centre" set up by the Togolese Association for Family Welfare (ATBEF).

AFASED cooperates closely with the Togo Federation of Associations for Parents of Pupils, which is a member of the Fédération africaine des associations nationales de parents d'élèves et étudiants, which has its headquarters in Brazzaville.

Health: Association Togolaise pour le contrôle de la drépanocytose

Following the publication of issue No. 57 of *Famille et développement* on drepanocytosis in May 1991, with the financial support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) (Canada) and following the organization of a seminar on drepanocytosis in 1994, the Association Togolaise pour le contrôle de la drépanocytose (ATCD) was established in December 1994.

In 1995, ATCD participated in an international seminar on drepanocytosis in Accra, Ghana.

In 1996, ATCD was a founding member of the Federation of Associations for the Prevention of Drepanocytosis in Africa (FALDA), together with Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Ghana, Nigeria, the Republic of the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, and Togo.

FALDA had meetings and carried out activities at the international level in Lomé, Cotonou, Accra, Ouagadougou, Niamey and Lagos.

Women

Following the publication of issue No. 59 of *Famille et développement* (December 1991), on female genital mutilation, with financial support from UNICEF and the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (IAC), AFASED strengthened its cooperation with IAC, its liaison office in Geneva and its national committee in Togo.

As an associated non-governmental organization, AFASED attended international meetings of IAC in Addis Ababa (1995), Ouagadougou (1996) and Dakar (1997).

In the context of the campaign against female genital mutilation, AFASED is working in cooperation with:

Equality Now (226 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019) and

Women's International Network (WIN NEWS) (187 Grant Street, Lexington, MA 02173).

Field projects for sustainable development

Tree nurseries were installed and reafforestation carried out in the region of Dzogbepime in Togo, with financial support from Friends of Togo (PO Box 9436, Washington, D.C., 20016).

A project to set up a workshop for *vibromortier* tile manufacture was begun in Togo in cooperation with Benin Concept (Cotonou) with support from UNESCO, the International Association for NGO-Enterprise Partnership (Mrs. J. Fouastie, 19 rue Monsieur, 75007 Paris), and SKAT (Mr. Daniel Schwitter, Vadianstr. 42, CH-9000. St. Gallen, Switzerland).

Liaison Committee for French-speaking Non-governmental organizations

The Togo and Benin branches of AFASED participated in the third general conference of French-speaking non-governmental organizations organized in Cotonou in February 1999 by the intergovernmental Agency for the French-Speaking Community.

AFASED was elected one of the five members of the Liaison Committee of French-speaking Non-governmental organizations.

The Liaison Committee met in Paris in May 1999.

2. Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Objectives

The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET) is a multi-actor network of local governments, development authorities, research and training institutions, and non-governmental organizations, mainly in Asia and the Pacific. It aims to create people-friendly cities by acting as a focal point for promoting the exchange of expertise and experience among all urban stakeholders, particularly among local authorities and non-governmental organizations.

Main activities

CITYNET achieves its objectives through various activities — for example, seminars and workshops on urban issues, short- or medium-term training programmes and study tours, technical advisory services, joint research/studies and pilot projects in selected urban issues, data-banking on management of human settlements, publications on urban governance, and newsletters, and dissemination of information on urban issues through publications and other communication methods.

Geographical membership

Starting with 12 members in 1987, CITYNET has grown into an international organization consisting of 112 members as at 31 December 1998. Its membership consists of 63 cities and 49 organizations (including 36 non-governmental organizations) in the 19 countries of Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, France, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pakistan, China, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Relationship with United Nations agencies

CITYNET originated from the decision of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to establish a network of local governments for bringing about better management capacity and expertise and for promoting regional cooperation for building partnerships between and among local governments and non-governmental sectors at the local and grass-roots levels. CITYNET maintains a close consultative and cooperative working relationship with United Nations agencies such as ESCAP and participates in the initiation and implementation of various programmes of the United Nations and its agencies — e.g., UNDP, UNDP/Urban Management Programme in Asia and the Pacific (UMPAP), Urban Management Programme-Asia (UMP-Asia), UNCHS, UNEP and WHO. CITYNET has on many occasions been subcontracted to undertake implementation of seminars and workshops by United Nations agencies. In 1996, as recognition of its contribution to and acknowledgement of its capability by the United Nations, CITYNET received direct funding from UNDP, including funding for administrative and overhead costs, to organize the Regional Training Workshop on Wastewater Management which was held from 23 to 26 July 1996, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. CITYNET continues to collaborate with other international organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Institute of Technology, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, the International Urban Development Association , the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Local Government Development Studies Inc., the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan, the United Towns Organization in Europe, and the World Bank, and with United Nations offices located in Japan.

Joint collaborative activities with United Nations agencies

CITYNET has executed many programmes with the support of United Nations agencies. Major collaborative activities during the period 1995-1998 are listed below:

1995:

Roving Workshop on Strengthening Urban Information Systems/ESCAP (March-December 1995)

Study-cum-Workshop for the Promotion of a Non-handicapping Environment for Disabled Persons in Asia and the Pacific, Yokohama, Japan/ESCAP Social Development Division (November 1995)

Regional Policy Workshop on Revenue-enhancing Strategies, Bandung, Indonesia/ESCAP Cooperation Fund/UMP-Asia (December 1995)

Pilot Project on Municipal Finance, Islamabad, Pakistan/ESCAP (1995)

Pilot Project on Poverty Alleviation, Ho-Chi Minh City, Viet Nam; Islamabad, Pakistan; Songkhla, Thailand/ESCAP/UMPAP (1995)

1996:

Regional Seminar on the Promotion of Environmentally Sound and Healthy Cities, Bangkok, Thailand/ESCAP/WHO (January 1996)

Participation in Habitat/UNDP (May-June 1996)

CITYNET/LIFE Regional Training Workshop on Wastewater Management, Colombo, Sri Lanka/Local Initiative Facility for the Urban Environment (LIFE) of UNDP (July 1996)

Policy Seminar on Urban Transport and Mass Transit, New Delhi, India/UNCHS/UNDP/UMPAP (October 1996)

Policy Seminar on Effective Participatory Urban Management, Shanghai, China/ESCAP/UMP-Asia (November 1996)

1997:

25th International Training Course in Regional Development Planning, Nagoya, Japan (April-May 1997)

International Conference on Governance for Sustainable Growth and Equity: International Colloquium of Mayors, New York, United States/UNDP (July 1997)

Regional Workshop on Local Initiated Training for Local Government Officials on Community Participation, Surabaya, Indonesia/UMPAP/UNDP/UNCHS (September 1997)

Technical Cooperation Among Cities in Developing Countries Forum: Learning for Sustainable Urban Practices, Yokohama, Japan/TCDC Unit of UNDP/UMPAP (November 1997)

1998:

26th International Training Course in Regional Development Planning, Nagoya, Japan (April-May 1998)

Sourcebook of Gender Responsive Environmental Planning and Management in Cities, UNCHS/UNEP (May 1998)

1998 Dubai International Award for Best Practices in Improving the Living Environment/UNCHS (March-October 1998)

Publications

CITYNET has disseminated on an ongoing basis information on activities and programmes of the United Nations and its agencies through its publications and electronic data. During the period 1995-1998, nine reports and proceedings were published, supported by the relevant United Nations agencies.

3. Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

The Dominican Union of Journalists for Peace (Union Dominicana de Periodistas por la Paz) (UDPP) was founded in 1996, within the framework of the International Year for the Culture of Peace, decreed by the United Nations, with the purpose of striving for the establishment of a world without weapons or war, and to cooperate with national and international organizations — whether governmental or not — in the search for universal peace. It tries to promote pacifist ideas, both nationally and internationally, within a new information order that, while meeting the goals of the press, would actually edify citizens by providing truthful information.

Activities in 1995

From 1995 to date, our institution has conducted oral year-round courses on human rights, with the object of collaborating with the United Nations as regards the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004). The instructional material includes texts approved by the United Nations.

In 1995, 500 copies of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were mimeographed and distributed to various schools and clubs in the city of Moca, Dominican Republic.

Since 1995, UNDP receives informative material from the World Health Organization, which it distributes to physicians in Moca, Dominican Republic, to contribute to the sale of United Nations books.

Activities in 1996

UDPP presented a paper titled "The role of UNESCO in creating a peace culture", at the Fourth Latin American and Caribbean Seminar on Communication for Peace.

During the week of 24-30 October, several panel discussions, lectures etc. were conducted to celebrate Disarmament Week.

UDPP placed at the disposal of Rigoberta Menchuall its communication media, to help celebrate the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (1994-2004), decreed by the United Nations.

Activities in 1997

UDPP currently uses all the bibliographic material it receives from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in its year-round courses on human rights.

On 8 March 1997, a lecture titled "Women's contributions to peace" was given at Cooperativa de Criadores del Cibao, in Moca, to celebrate the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

A panel discussion was conducted on 24 October 1997, on the television programme La Prensa Frente al Pueblo ("The Press Talks to the People"), the title of which was "What is the Future of the United Nations?", with the participation of Jose Alberto Cruceta and the President of UDPP. The discussion analysed the United Nations future, and the conclusions were very encouraging.

A gathering of nine organizations from the municipality of Moca was held on 10 December 1997, to celebrate Human Rights Day. The President of UDPP was one of the speakers at this event.

The President of UDPP attended the international seminar "Thinking of the United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean" which was held from 21 to 24 October in Havana, Cuba, sponsored by the Cuban Association of the United Nations, and co-sponsored by the Latin American Economic System.

Articles published in the journal *Paz*

The following articles in connection with the United Nations were published in 1997 in *Paz* which is UDPP's dissemination organ:

(a) Guest editorial: "The United Nations in the face of third millennium" (*Paz*, No. 1, January-February 1997, p. 3; English translation in the same issue, p. 29);

(b) "Tlateloco in the nineties", part I (*Paz*, No. 1, January-February 1997, p. 9); reprinted from the journal of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Development, and Disarmament and the Caribbean;

(c) "Notes on the Economic and Social Council" (*Paz*, No. 1, January-February 1998, p. 5);

(d) "A declaration on the principles, regarding the contribution of mass media to the strengthening of peace, international understanding, the promotion of human rights, and the fight against racism, apartheid and incitation to war", part I (*Paz*, No. 1, January-February 1998, p. 30);

(e) "A declaration on the principles ...", part II (*Paz*, No. 2, March-April 1998, p. 7);

(f) "Declaration of the human rights of people who are not citizens of the country where they live" (*Paz*, No. 2, March-April 1999, p. 30);

(g) "Tlateloco in the nineties", part II (*Paz*, No. 2, March-April 1997, p. 3);

(h) Letter of proposal sent by UDPP to the United Nations Secretary-General (*Paz*, No. 3, May-June 1997, p. 17);

(i) "Tlateloco in the nineties", part III (*Paz*, No. 3, May-June 1997, p. 19);

(j) "Armament as a destabilizing factor in Latin America", part I (*Paz*, No. 3, May-June 1997, p. 25); reprinted from the journal of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Development, and Disarmament and the Caribbean;

(k) "Resolution 1998/3 of the Commission on Human Rights" (*Paz*, No. 3, May-June 1998, p. 26);

(l) "What International Criminal Court?" (*Paz*, No. 4, July-August 1998, p. 3);

(m) "Armament as a destabilizing factor in Latin America", part II (*Paz*, No. 4, July-August 1997, p. 5);

(n) "News from the United Nations Information Center for Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic" (*Paz*, No. 5, September-October 1997, p. 9);

(o) "News from the United Nations Information Center for Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic" (*Paz*, No. 6, November-December 1997, p. 16);

(p) "Editorial: 50 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (*Paz*, No. 6, November-December 1998, p. 2).

Activities in 1998

The first National Seminar Against Impunity, co-sponsored by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), was held on 2 August 1998, at the campus of the Technological University of Santiago, in Moca, with the participation of Guillermo Perez Arguello, Deputy Director of UNDP in the Dominican Republic, and Katy Gutierrez, an officer of UNDP.

During the week of 5-10 July, videos on human rights lent by UNDP and approved by Dr. Paolo Oberti, the UNDP Director in the Dominican Republic, were exhibited.

On Sunday, 18 October 1998, a panel discussion on "The role of the United Nations in the solution of armed conflicts", was conducted on the television programme "La Prensa Frente al Pueblo". The panellists were Carlos A. Perez, Wellington Andrade and George Rodriguez.

The Second National Contest on Literature for Peace was conducted on 10 December, to commemorate Human Rights Day, decreed by the United Nations.

On Thursday, 10 December 1998, a seminar entitled "50 years after the Declaration of Human Rights" was held at the Technological University of Santiago, to analyse the role of the United Nations in the development of human rights over that period of time.

Poster exhibit

UDPP exhibits in its premises various types of posters obtained from the UNDP office in Santo Domingo, on different United Nations activities.

Television programme

"La Prensa Frente al Pueblo" (The Press Talks to the People), which airs every Sunday evening, covers all the events of UDPP.

4. Women's World Summit Foundation

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Mission

The Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF), an international, not-for-profit humanitarian non-governmental organization, is an international coalition of non-governmental organizations and individuals who work for a new development paradigm with and for women and children. It was established to generate increased interest and urgent support for the realization of United Nations development goals set forth at numerous United Nations summits and international conferences.

Since 1995, the Foundation has developed several global awareness campaigns, which have greatly increased its geographical outreach, interest in programmes and membership. Due to its global outreach and increased financial responsibilities, funding needs also increased. The Swiss Government and several United Nations agencies began financially to support WWSF projects in 1997. In its empowerment work, WWSF is closely collaborating with, *inter alia*, the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP), the Self-Employed Women's Association in India (SEWA), the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) (all of whom enjoy consultative status with the Council).

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and United Nations conferences

United Nations-accredited WWSF Board members, staff, volunteers, and the Executive Director regularly participate in United Nations conferences and relevant meetings, especially in Geneva, where they have their headquarters, but also in the annual session of the Commission on the Status of Women in New York and the numerous meetings convened by the Commission in Geneva. WWSF was accredited to and participated in both the NGO Forums and the United Nations conferences convened in 1995 (Copenhagen and Beijing) and 1996 (Istanbul and Rome). At all meetings WWSF collaborated with other non-governmental organizations in drafting and making oral and written statements.

Since 1995, WWSF has collaborated with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. It regularly receives nominations from United Nations agencies, such as UNDP, FAO, WFP, and IFAD, of outstanding rural women or women's groups who work to enhance the quality of life in rural communities, to be considered for its annual award for rural women, the Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life. The candidates are always very special and, after being screened by an international jury (WWSF Board members), many have been selected as laureates. Every year since 1995 WWSF has selected 30 or more outstanding rural women or women's groups from around the world for this award ($500 each). UNDP, UNIFEM, UNFPA and the World Bank sponsored the Prize in 1997 and 1998, for which WWSF is extremely grateful.

After the launching of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), together with other international non-governmental organizations, WWSF proposed establishing an annual World Rural Women's Day on 15 October, to create a synergy with World Food Day on 16 October. In 1996 WWSF started a global awareness campaign to increase knowledge and empowerment for rural women, in association with the International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP). WWSF has since expanded its work by serving as focal point for World Rural Women's Day. It reaches out to more than 18,000 rural women's groups, women's organizations, ministries of agriculture, and the international media on an annual basis. Over 20,000 posters and campaign materials in six languages were mailed around the world in 1997 and 1998, and the impact of the Day is really remarkable. President Clinton of the United States and President Ramos of the Philippines have both proclaimed World Rural Women's Day in their countries, thereby supporting the role of rural women. Other countries (i.e., Russia and Zambia) are in the process of establishing similar proclamations.

In addition to local sponsors and the Government of Switzerland, several United Nations agencies are among sponsors for the World Rural Women's Day campaign, and WWSF enjoyed financial support in 1997 and 1998 from UNIFEM, UNFPA, IFAD, WFP and the World Bank; FAO gave graphic design support.

Other relevant activities

In 1996, WWSF launched the World Fund for the Dignity of Children, to help end the sexual exploitation of children and educate people to end such practices. The Fund has, since 1996, sponsored 11 programmes and projects around the world, dealing with rehabilitation and prevention of child sexual abuse. The Fund emphasizes the right to dignity and promotes public education and membership via leaflets and publications of this grave social ill. The Executive Director participated in the UNESCO Expert Meeting on Sexual Abuse of Children, Child Pornography and Paedophilia on the Internet and continues to alert the media and the public of this ever-increasing problem. The annual membership fee of the Fund starts at $100, and all proceeds, without any deductions for overhead costs or

administration, are contributed to rehabilitation projects for sexually abused children and orphans.

In 1997, WWSF launched a peace seal campaign , "My home is a place of peace", in support of UNESCO's mission of creating cultures for peace and non-violence. The peace seal idea is disseminated via WWSF publications and communications, and more and more individuals, organizations, schools and families order seals for their own use and distribution.

In 1997, WWSF launched an Arabic section which provides non-governmental organizations with a network/database of Arab non-governmental organizations and offers research institutions working on women's and children's rights and development issues a resource centre on the status of women and children living in the Arab world, plus a quarterly newsletter in Arabic.

The WWSF Executive Director prepared an introductory paper on the launching of "A serving nation" — that is, a nation without territory, which would focus on harnessing the efforts of people who believe in compliance with United Nations development goals and in respect for human rights worldwide.

Relationship with the Commission on Human Rights

WWSF produces occasional programmes such as the 1999 Peace Planner, a partnership project with the Natural Original Life Foundation, based in South Africa, with the purpose of reaching out to students and teachers, to raise awareness of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Presidents of South Africa and Switzerland all wrote introductions printed in the planner. The WWSF Executive Director provided most of the material in the planner, which features the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the work of several United Nations agencies, and the 36 WWSF laureates who received the 1998 Prizes for Women's Creativity in Rural Life. The agenda was intended for rural school children, and the President made 8,000 copies available for free distribution to rural schools in South Africa. During the preparation of this project, the WWSF Executive Director enjoyed excellent relations with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

At the price of $1 per copy, 2,815 additional planners were commercially sold. The proceeds ($2,815) were donated to the United Nations Fund against Contemporary Slavery.

WWSF also promotes the work and video of its Vice-President, Dr. Margaret Fulton, "Transforming hierarchical structures and systems". WWSF challenges the traditional pyramidal models of power and calls on everyone to go beyond restrictive, bureaucratic institutions and the market-driven model which dominate our modern materialistic consumer society. Use of animation graphics and video technology make it possible to visualize alternative structures which suggest a new mindset which replaces conquering with compassionate caring, competition with cooperation, individualism with interdependence, resource exploitation with resource conservation, product orientation with service orientation, materialism with spiritual awareness.

WWSF produces a biannual global newsletter, *Empowering Women and Children*, in four languages. It contains reports of WWSF work with the United Nations and gives general information on WWSF empowerment programmes.

5. World Coal Institute

(Special consultative status granted 1991)

The World Coal Institute (WCI) is a non-profit, non-governmental association of coal producers and coal consumers. Present membership is drawn from six continents and 14 countries around the world. WCI is the only international body working on a global basis on behalf of the coal industry. The principal objectives of WCI are to:

(a) Provide a voice for coal in international debates on energy and the environment;

(b) Improve public awareness of the merits and importance of coal as the single largest source of fuel for the generation of electricity;

(c) Ensure decision makers — and public opinion generally — that we are fully informed on the advances in modern clean coal technologies; advances that are steadily improving the efficient use of coal and greatly reducing the impact of coal on the environment;

(d) Widen understanding of the vital role that metallurgical coal plays in the worldwide production of the steel on which all industry depends;

(e) Support other sectors of the worldwide coal industry in emphasizing the importance of coal and its qualities as a plentiful, clean, safe and economical energy source;

(f) Promote the merits of coal and upgrade the image of coal as a clean, efficient fuel, essential to both the generation of the world's electricity and the manufacture of the world's steel.

WCI publications are circulated free of charge; a significant number of requests are received from developing countries.

Changes in sources of funding

In 1997, the World Coal Institute's Articles of Association opened membership to coal consumers as well as coal producers. WCI now provides a voice for the two major constituents of the coal industry in international policy debates affecting market access and end-use worldwide. This is a most significant shift in our focus and direction — bringing our constituency more into line with our activities, which are often dominated by coal end-use issues covering clean coal technology, combustion efficiency and the environment, particularly international climate change policy.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes or bodies

WCI cooperated with the Economic Commission for Europe, UNEP and the United Nations Secretariat (and the World Energy Council), and World Energy Assessment.

Workshops organized and co-sponsored in developing countries

January 1995	Coal for Power, Thailand
June 1995	Indonesian Coal Mining and Coal-Fired Power Generation and the Environment, Indonesia
June 1996	Indian Coal Perspective to 2010, India
August 1996	How to Secure Long-Term Efficient Coal Supply to the Growing Philippines Power Market, Philippines

December 1996	Energy Efficiency Improvements in China: Policy Measures, Innovative Finance and Technology Deployment. Co-sponsored event with International Energy Agency (IEA), China
September 1997	El Desarrollo Carbonifero del Zulia y el Medio Ambiente, Venezuela
April 1999	Coal Utilization and Environmental Management in the Asian region, Thailand. (Joint WCI/Australian Government Workshop)
May 1999	Coal Utilization and Environmental Management in the Asian region, Malaysia. (Joint WCI/Australian Government Workshop)

Sessions of United Nations bodies attended

4-16 February 1995	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee 11, New York
23-24 February 1995	UNEP International Advisory Board Meeting to advise on the development of UNEP/ICC/FIDIC Environmental Management Systems Training Resource Kit, Paris
28 March- 7 April 1995	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, leading to the Conference of the Parties, Berlin
22-25 May 1995	ECE Meeting of Experts on Coal Trade, Statistics and Transport, fifth session, Varna
5-7 June 1995	UNEP Consultative Meeting with Industry and Trade Associations, Paris
21-25 August 1995	Ad Hoc Group on Berlin Mandate, first session, Geneva
30 October- 3 November 1995	Ad Hoc Group on Berlin Mandate, second session, Geneva
December 1995	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, various sessions of the three working groups and eleventh plenary session, Rome
27 February- 4 March 1996	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, second session of the subsidiary bodies, AGBM NGO Workshop, Geneva
19-23 May 1996	ECE Meeting of Experts on Coal Trade, Statistics and Transport, Constanta, Romania
3-4 June 1996	UNEP Industry and Trade Association Consultative Meeting, Paris
8-19 July 1996	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Second Conference of the Parties, Geneva
23-26 September 1996	UNEP fourth High-level Seminar on Cleaner Production, Oxford, United Kingdom
28-30 October 1996	ECE Safety in Coal Mines Workshop, Calimanesti, Romania
4-6 November 1996	ECE sixth session of the Working Party on Coal
3-7 March 1997	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change/Ad Hoc Group on Berlin Mandate, Bonn

10-11 July 1997	ECE Meeting of Experts on Clean Coal Technologies, Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Generation and the Environment, Geneva
31 July- 7 August 1997	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change/Ad Hoc Group on Berlin Mandate, Bonn
22-31 October 1997	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change/Ad Hoc Group on Berlin Mandate, Bonn
4 November 1997	ECE Working Party on Coal, seventh session, Geneva
5 November 1997	ECE Committee for Sustainable Energy, seventh session, Round Table High-level discussion, Geneva
1-10 December 1997	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Third Conference of the Parties, Kyoto
25-27 May 1998	ECE Seminar on Restructuring of the Coal Industry and the Coal-Fired Thermal Power Sector, Varna, Bulgaria
2-12 June 1998	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Subsidiary Bodies, Bonn
5-6 October 1998	ECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal and Thermal Power, first session, Geneva
7 October 1998	ECE Committee for Sustainable Development, eighth session, Round Table High-level discussion, Kyoto
6-8 October 1998	ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, eighth session, Geneva
15-16 October 1998	UNEP Consultative Meeting with Industry Associations, Paris
2-13 November 1998	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Fourth Conference of the Parties, Buenos Aires
31 May-11 June 1999	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, tenth session of the subsidiary bodies, Bonn
12-13 July 1999	UNDP World Energy Assessment Advisory Panel Meeting, Geneva

6. World Young Women's Christian Association

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

The World Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) unites associations which are working in accordance with its principles and meet the requirements for affiliation; it seeks to coordinate them into a world movement; and it acts on their behalf in matters for which it has received authority. It provides a channel for the sharing of resources and exchange of experiences. It helps its member associations with development of their leadership and programmes; surveys new fields and promotes work to meet new needs; works for international understanding, for improved social and economic conditions and for basic human rights for all people. It acts in cooperation with the United Nations and non-governmental organizations in matters of common concern.

The World YWCA made several statements to the Council and its subsidiary bodies.

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

The World YWCA makes every effort to participate in United Nations meetings and conferences which are relevant to its concerns, through its extensive network in 85 countries around the world. In addition, the World YWCA has teams of dedicated volunteers in Geneva, New York, Paris and Nairobi who represent it in those cities.

Cooperation with United Nations programmes and bodies and specialized agencies

The World YWCA is frequently invited to provide resource people for United Nations events. It was involved in the following ways:

(a) Member of the UNICEF Technical Support Group focused on youth health and development; member of the Steering Committee of the Youth NGOs which organized the Youth Consultation in Cairo during the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994; and member of the Board of the International Coordinating Committee on Palestine. The World YWCA cooperates with and attends all meetings called by the Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;

(b) Acts as secretariat of the NGO Working Group on Palestine, calling meetings of the Working Group at least twice a year;

(c) Sent a fact-finding team to Palestine in 1995 and 1996 to assess the situation there and monitor the peace process;

(d) Made a presentation at a special day-long event on the girl child, organized by UNICEF at the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(e) Provided three speakers for Youth Day which was celebrated during the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(f) Responded to the UNFPA request for entries to the International Youth Essay Competition, "Promoting reproductive health: the youth perspective";

(g) On behalf of WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, distributed a consultant roster form on adolescent health resources to all its affiliates and received several responses. WHO plans to call upon these consultants in different regions to do short-term assignments in the field.

Action in implementation of United Nations resolutions

This is done mostly by disseminating information through its publications — e.g., *Common Concern* (quarterly) and *Advocacy Briefing Notes* (monthly). They contain updates on international conferences, and particularly their impact on the local and national situations of women. *Action Alerts* are issued, as needed, for the active mobilization of the entire movement. After the Fourth World Conference on Women, the December 1995 issue of *Common Concern* printed a guide for using the Platform for Agenda for advocacy programmes in the YWCAs.

By encouraging participation in United Nations conferences by YWCA women, World YWCA enables them to learn how international decisions are made and how non-governmental organizations can affect these decisions by lobbying for change.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat

World YWCA remains in close contact with the secretariats in Geneva, New York and Paris, through its representatives, on matters of common concern — e.g., human rights, youth, environment and issues relating to the welfare of women and girls.

Written responses to United Nations inquiries

World Health Organization, on progress in human reproduction research, 1996

International Labour Organization, special list of non-governmental organizations, 1997 Review

United Nations Secretariat, Department of Public Information, *1994 NGO Directory*

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on violence against women migrant workers, 1997

UNESCO, on evaluation of collective consultation of youth organizations, 1996

UNICEF, on implementation of the NGO/UNICEF Partnership Project, 1997

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on new NGO database

Preparations of papers at the request of the Council

World YWCA was asked to participate in a panel for the fifth annual conference of the Department of Public Information (United Nations Secretariat) on 10 September 1997, Geneva. It presented a paper, "Women's participation or lack of in the international arena". It also presented a paper on behalf of the International Coordinating Committee on Palestine during the commemoration of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, in Geneva.